

Appl. No. : 09/719,917
Filed : February 20, 2001

A/ subjecting said support and said mica sheet to a pressure and temperature treatment; thereby
preparing said micaceous product.

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Support for the amendment is found in the specification and claims as filed. Accordingly, the amendment does not constitute the addition of new matter. The specific changes to the amended claim is shown on a separate page attached hereto and entitled VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE, which follows the signature page of this Response to Restriction Requirement and Preliminary Amendment. On this page, the insertions are underlined while **[the deletions are bolded and bracketed]**.

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed October 31, 2002. In the Communication, the Examiner has required restriction to one of 2 inventions:

Group I (Claims 1-13 and 18-25), drawn to a process for preparing a micaceous product;
and

Group II (Claims 14-17, 26, and 27), drawn to a micaceous product.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute the claims directed to Group II in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the remaining claims in a divisional application. Accordingly, prompt examination of Claims 14-17, 26, and 27 is respectfully requested.

Upon the allowance of the elected claims, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of Claims 1-13 and 18-25. Amended Claims 1-13 and 18-25 are ultimately dependent on one of the elected claims and are drawn to a process for preparing a micaceous product of Group II. Accordingly, rejoinder of these claims will be appropriate in accordance with M.P.E.P. 821.04.

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CONCLUSION


Should there be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: January 16, 2003

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A process for preparing a micaceous product **[comprising a support and a mica sheet capable of being impregnated]** of Claim 14, said process comprising:

coating a component of said micaceous product with at least one solvent-free resin, with an aid of several coating rollers at a working temperature for a coating operation of between 40°C and 200°C;

combining the support with the mica sheet; and

subjecting said support and said mica sheet to a pressure and temperature treatment; thereby

preparing said micaceous product.